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Remarks

Claims 14-62 are pending in the application, with claims 29, 42-52, 58 and 59 being allowed; claims 14, 15, 22, 23, 27, 28, 30, 31, 53, 54 and 60-62 being rejected; and claims 16-21, 2-26, 32-41 and 55-57 being objected to.

In order to expedite allowance of the majority of the claims, Applicants have canceled rejected claims 14-15, 22, 23, 30, 31, 53, 54 and 60 without any admission of any lack of patentability and reserve the right to continue prosecution of these claims in a divisional case.

Additionally, Applicants have amended the claims which were objected to and have accepted the Examiner's recommendations to place certain dependent claims in independent form by incorporating the limitations of the independent claims and the intervening claims. As such, Applicants believe the objected claims 16-21, 24-28, 32-41, and 55-57 are now in condition for allowance (claims 27-28 now dependent from allowable claims)

Claim 61 has been amended to claim dependence from claims 16, 55, 56 and 57.

Claim 62 has been amended to claim dependence from claims 16, 55, 56, and 57 (also correcting the dependency from another multiple dependent claim).

35 USC 112 rejection of claims 61 and 62

Applicants respectfully traverse the 35 USC 112 rejection of claims 61 and 62 for failing to comply with the written description requirement. Applicants submit that one skilled in the art, when referring to the Specification as submitted would have appreciated this as having been adequately disclosed. Specifically, the subject matter is supported in the Specification as filed in the paragraph extending from the bottom of page 4 to the top of page 5. This was further described in the Morrison U.S. Pat. No.5,888,256, which was incorporated by reference. As such, one skilled in the art would appreciate the inventors had envisioned that fuel could be fed into a precalciner and at least a portion of the fuel burned therein, and therefore had the claimed invention in their possession at the time the application was filed.

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In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicant has shown that the specification is in proper form, the claims are in proper form for allowance, and the invention is patentably distinct. Accordingly the Applicant respectfully requests allowance of all claims.